



0 Humanities!

life in the library

Arts & Sciences

The Magazine of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of North Carolina Wilmington

UNCW

What do we want for our students?

Well, lots of things. But essentially, we want them to have a good life. Most of what we try to do for students, really, is done with that goal in mind. But what makes a life “good”? There’s no single answer, but certainly an understanding of the human condition in all its complexity, an appreciation for beauty and a sense of ethics and responsibility would be high on the list. Study in the humanities – literature, foreign languages and cultures, history, philosophy and religion, and graduate liberal studies – calls upon the intellectual traditions of the liberal arts to empower the individual in exactly these ways.



Dean David P. Cordle

What about work and career? In that vein, sometimes we hear the question “What can you do with a degree in English, history or philosophy?” Better to ask “What can’t you do?” The humanities prepare students to think critically, to communicate clearly, to solve problems and to work with others. In the broadest sense, this study teaches the value of continued learning. Given the rapid pace of change in today’s world, this may be the single most important skill and practice for life in the 21st century. Employers understand this and value what humanities students bring to the workplace.

The humanities departments in the College of Arts and Sciences play an important role in the preparation of all UNCW undergraduates, since the Basic Studies program requires significant work in the humanities. We believe this is vital to their preparation for that “good life” after graduation, regardless of the directions their personal and professional lives might take.

In this issue of the *Arts & Sciences Magazine*, you’ll meet a student who changed his major six times before finding his passion for philosophy and logic. You’ll also see how our English students explore literature by visiting the places that forged the experience of great writers. We’ll take a look at how the Foreign Languages and Literatures Department uses sophisticated and creative methods to immerse students in the language and culture of other countries.

You will enjoy reading about history professor Yixin Chen. Exiled to the countryside as a youth during the Cultural Revolution of Mao Zedong, his harsh experience eventually led him to specialize in 20th century Chinese socioeconomic history and agricultural practice. You will explore the experience of African and African American history through art and meet Graduate Liberal Studies students whose intellectual curiosity keeps them learning for life.

Finally, just as the sciences require a laboratory for research, so too do the humanities. The William Madison Randall Library, under the leadership of University Librarian Sherman Hayes, offers first-class research support for faculty and students alike. You will see why the library, the laboratory for the humanities, is a source of pride and an invaluable resource for the entire university.

I hope you find this issue enjoyable, and that it conveys something of how vital the humanities are to the UNCW experience and to our lives in the 21st century.

Best regards,

David P. Cordle, Dean
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

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On the cover:
 Greg Casaletto graduated in December '06 with a double major in Elementary Education and Philosophy. Returning from Europe after his graduation, Greg now plans to serve in the Peace Corps or teach abroad.

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This issue of **Arts & Sciences** highlights the humanities, the disciplines that use methods of inquiry that are analytical, critical and speculative to study the human condition. It celebrates the power of these methods and focus to stimulate individuality, creativity, imagination and critical thinking that inform the student experience and energize learning opportunities at UNC Wilmington.

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Inspired by philosophy's roots in the Greek tradition, read how one student came to value the examined life.

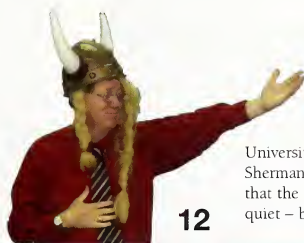


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"When Is *if* Enough?"

BY MATT SAYBALL '06

About four years ago, I was an aimless undergraduate who had changed his major more than six times. I knew I was capable of academic success, but hadn't found a field of study or a major that suited me. I wanted to use my mind – but my thoughts were unorganized. I was frustrated and confused about my direction.

Then, in 2002, I found the Department of Philosophy and Religion. Thinking that a philosophy course might augment a laid-back Wilmington summer that I was eagerly anticipating, I enrolled in *Introduction to Logic* to satisfy UNCW's basic studies requirement. Little did I know that one course would change the way I thought about, well, everything.

The department's first-rate faculty of exemplary scholars, with strong commitments to undergraduate teaching, made certain they were available to help and support me. Amazed and inspired by philosophy's roots in the Greek tradition, where ancient philosophers casually argued truth values from memory for days without notes – I came to respect the value of an examined life. I soon began to realize that life is teeming with philosophical issues. I was hooked on philosophy. I was using my mind.

I found that the academic rigor excited me. Urged to thoroughly understand issues before making conclusions or judgments, I began to learn how to substantiate view points, to distinguish valid inferences from fallacious ones and realized something: now, I was organizing my thoughts!



"What If?"

What *if* there was no basic studies philosophy requirement? What *if* I hadn't taken *Introduction to Logic* that summer? I might still be interested in philosophical questions even *if* I hadn't been introduced to philosophy.

But now my education is giving me the conceptual tools and methods needed to engage in philosophical inquiry; strengthening my ability to organize my thoughts and articulate them in a clear, logical manner, and instilling in me the value of respecting the opinions of others.

Are you noticeably less familiar with the justifications for your beliefs than you are with your beliefs themselves? Often, those with limited perspectives may know more about their perspectives than they know about the issue in question.

Do you like to listen to and evaluate the ideas of others? Would you like to gain confidence in your abilities to write and speak methodically, constructively and persuasively? *If* you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you too might benefit from learning the art of philosophical inquiry.

"THE CONSIDERATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES NOT ONLY MAKES YOU MORE INCISIVE AND MENTALLY ADEPT, BUT, IN GENERAL, MAKES YOU MORE TOLERANT AND WISE."

— MATT SAYBALL '06



At the spring '06 Board of Trustees Meeting, Sayball speaks with board members after a poster presentation of his research.

Philosophers do not teach by indoctrination. No philosophical pursuit is aimed at hard and fast answers. Philosophers never say, "This is the Truth," and expect acceptance. In philosophy, every issue requires a carefully structured and systematic investigation. The goal is to acquire an informed, well-developed understanding of a particular problem.

Philosophical study provides you with the critical and analytical skills necessary to train your mind to achieve a higher level of excellence, because in philosophy, you must judge everything for yourself. Philosophical investigation requires the consideration of many opposing perspectives leading to the development of a well-informed point of view, because the more perspectives you consider, the better you come to understand the issue, itself. The consideration and development of diverse perspectives not only makes you more incisive and mentally adept, but, in general, makes you more tolerant and wise.



"When is philosophy enough? Never!"

The subject matter available to philosophical investigation is endless. In axiology, or the study of value, you can study anything from art and technology to ethical systems and aesthetic beauty pursuing age-old questions like "What is the value of artistic expression?" or "What moral duties do I have?" In epistemology, the study of knowledge and belief, you consider questions like "What kinds of knowledge are there and what different sorts of justification exist for different kinds of knowledge claims?" and "What, after all, do we really know, anyway?"

Metaphysics considers the ultimate nature and structure of reality and includes questions such as: How free can I actually be? What is identity? What is the nature of time? What is mind? Since questions like these occur to everyone, it is clear that we all have the capacity for metaphysical studies even if few of us aspire to become metaphysicians.

And of course, philosophers also study logic, the science that evaluates arguments. Logic is divided into formal logic, which is very much like mathematics, and informal logic, which focuses primarily on argumentation as it appears in ordinary languages like English. Logic is arguably the alpha and the omega of philosophy, if I may say so.

"When is if enough? Never!"

WHEN IS "IF" ENOUGH?

On Condition...

Editor's Note: Conditional reasoning is used to evaluate the validity of legal arguments, to test cognitive ability, to diagnose reasoning disorders; conditional statements are a vital part of computer programming language, to mention but a few applications. All decision-making is based on sets of conditional statements. It is difficult to overestimate their importance.

Matt Sayball's interests lie in metaphysics, language and logic. Sayball has presented his research on topics such as fatalism and time, Kant's phenomena and noumena, physicalism and qualia and on conditional (if and if/then) statements at Duke University, James Madison University, the University of Memphis, the University of South Carolina and UNC Wilmington.

Sayball is concerned now with the semantics and pragmatics of some if-sentences that other philosophers have called non-conditionals. According to Sayball, if-sentences that appear to be non-conditional have been suppressed by philosophical theories since the inception of classical logic. If it turns out that some if-sentences are legitimately non-conditional, the framework of classical logic stands to be undermined.

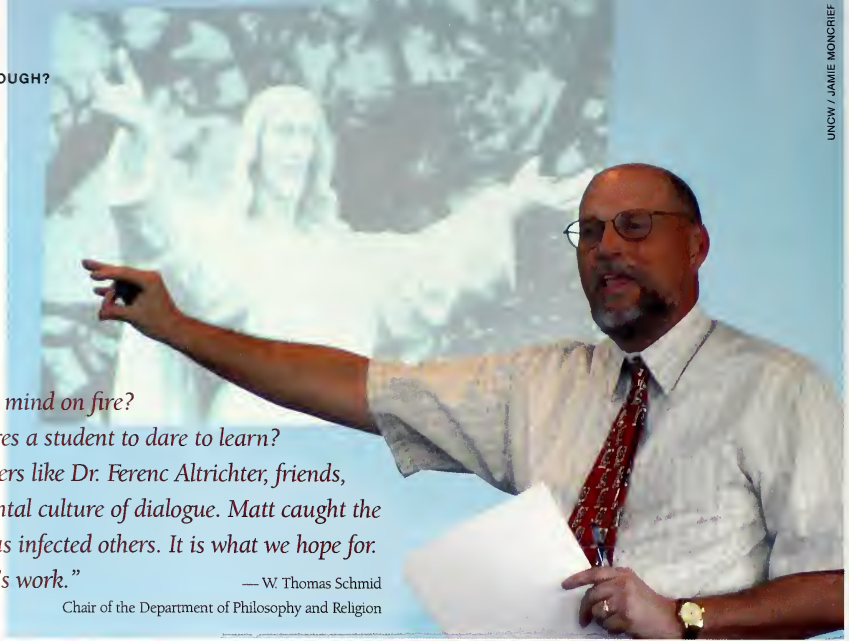
Sayball argues, on the basis of semantic and pragmatic considerations, that sentences like "If that's a Rolex, then I'm the Tooth Fairy," are conditional in their meanings as well as in their conversational uses. Sayball concludes that the inference to or assertion of the sentence "That's not a Rolex" can only be obtained by a conditional process, and such a process would be impossible if the original sentence were non-conditional.

Additionally, Sayball argues that sentences like "There are some biscuits on the table

continued...

“What sets a mind on fire?
What inspires a student to dare to learn?
Great teachers like Dr. Ferenc Altrichter, friends,
a departmental culture of dialogue. Matt caught the
fever and has infected others. It is what we hope for.
It is our life's work.”

— W. Thomas Schmid
Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion



if you want them” are merely colloquialisms that do not occur in argumentative or fact-stating discourse, contending that speakers utter these biscuit-sentences when they are unsure of an if-clause’s truth value. Sayball concludes that when ignorant of relevant contextual matters, speakers use biscuit-type sentences as devices to conditionally perform conversational actions, e.g., the invitation “Have some biscuits.”

In the UNCW Honors Program, Sayball wrote “Conditional Statements and Other Iffy Things,” a thesis on the syntax, semantics and pragmatics of conditional statements as they occur in classical logic, alethic modal logic and ordinary English. “Conditionals,” Sayball says, “are widespread in our thinking, pervade our communication with others, influence and direct our actions, and their role in our inferences is paramount.”

As an undergraduate Sayball has presented papers at the Colonial Academic Alliance Undergraduate Research Conference (April 2006), University of North Carolina Wilmington Showcase of Undergraduate Research; the Midsouth Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (February 2006); Joint Meeting of the South Carolina Society for Philosophy and the North Carolina Philosophy Society (February 2006).

Matt Sayball recently won Best Undergraduate Paper for academic year 2006-2007 from the North Carolina Philosophical Society for his paper “Biscuit Conditionals.” In academic year 2004-2005, his paper “A Discourse on Mary,” a paper originally written for class that discussed the question of physicality, also won first place. Sayball is the first student in North Carolina to win the competition twice. In March 2007, Sayball was one of the two nominees from UNC Wilmington for the national Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship. Among the largest and most competitive scholarships in the country, the foundation identifies and supports scholars of exceptional promise. “Not bad,” says Department Chair Tom Schmid, “for a fellow who happily admits he was ‘a completely indifferent student’ until the summer semester he took a logic class that transformed him and set him in a new direction – toward what he hopes will be a career in the pursuit of knowledge.”

Sayball graduated from UNCW in December 2006. He is currently doing independent research in the areas of logic, epistemology, and language studies and hopes to begin graduate school in philosophy next fall.

— Kim Proukou

BY KIM PROUKOU

Speaking of Languages

The 21st century's global citizen will be culturally educated, versed in more than one language, open to new possibilities and comfortable in new settings, an experienced traveler and a responsible world neighbor. UNCW's Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is preparing students for expanded responsibilities and opportunities anywhere in the world using innovative teaching, interdisciplinary learning, outreach and technology.

Say It through the Arts

Learning another language is not simply learning to say the same thing another way. How often have you heard a native speaker of another language say, "There is really no word for this in English!" And, there isn't – because language is more than words; it is the communication of experience, and our experience, as people of various cultures, differs.

Film connects language to the arts and is one innovative teaching tool for second language acquisition. "Film is fast becoming a language all of its own," says Lou Buttino Chair of the Film Studies Department. "Film, the Internet and other means of communication are breaking down the nation-state boundaries. It's a revolution akin to the printing press. The collaborative efforts of the Departments of Foreign Languages and Literatures and Film Studies are bringing this new reality home."

French Film

Assistant Professor of French Michelle Scatton-Tessier uses French film not only to demonstrate the French language as it is spoken by native speakers but to convey cross-cultural awareness. "I continually seek ways to bring my research in contemporary French cinema to both the university and community," she says. Since 2004, Scatton-Tessier, with Assistant Professor of Film Studies Tim Palmer, has been welcoming the community to join students free of charge in viewing recent French films from all over the French-speaking world at festivals such as Cinéma Nouveau, sponsored by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Departments of Films Studies and Foreign Languages and Literatures, the Office of International Programs and the Wilmington *Star-News*.

UNCW / JAMIE MONGRIEF

Michelle
Scatton-Tessier



Spanish Film

Associate Professor of Spanish Maria Cami-Vela uses film in her Spanish classes because movies not only appeal to students, but also expose students to "authentic language"-spoken language in context, "the best way of learning," she says. Language is reinforced with the power of images as the film provides the social, historical and cultural background. "Students are familiarized with daily life in a wide variety of settings: work, family, relationships, sports, entertainment."



Maria Cami-Vela

German Film

Associate Professor of German Oliver Speck uses film to teach the language within a contextual understanding of German cultural identity. Interested in the idea of national identity, Speck suggests that what defines national consciousness is that which is in flux, always in need of redefining itself, and therefore political. In the book he is currently writing, *Creating Perspectives: Concepts of Identity in European Cinemas*, Speck explains the construction of a filmic genre as a question of projection, with a strong affinity to the construction of an imagined community, with which we, in turn, identify ourselves.

Oliver Speck

UNCW / JAMIE MONCHIEF



Columbian hip-hop group Choc Quib Town

CAROLINA NAIAS

Columbian Hip Hop: Christopher Dennis

Words and music that paint images and emotions create songs that are a reflection of culture. "I have found that Afro-Columbian hip-hop can serve as a wonderful tool for teaching language and culture to U.S. university students," says Assistant Professor of Spanish Christopher Dennis. "Within the African Diaspora, music has been an extremely important medium for celebration, resistance, cultural preservation, social protest. Today, young black Columbian artists use hip-hop as a tool for re-working ethnic identities, embarking on professional and cultural activities, and for establishing alliances and audiences both locally and internationally, facilitating cross-cultural communication and understanding."

From Bogotá, Columbia, the group Choc Quib Town's three principal rappers and five other musicians combine rap with funk, raga and traditional Afro-Columbian rhythms and musical instruments to form a unique fusion of rhythms, sounds and cultural identities. The group will come to the UNCW campus September 19-21, 2007. Sponsors include UNCW Presents, UNCW Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and UNCW's Centro Hispano.

Spanish Civil War Posters: the Art of Propaganda

The art of propaganda and the political poster during the Spanish Civil War become a means for discussion—in Spanish—and a poster contest in Assistant Professor John Stevens' Topics in Spanish Civilization class. Students tested their own skills at communicating passions of the warring factions. This poster (left), designed and contributed by Juan Santos '09, is a beautiful example of student work that brought considerations of history, language, culture and philosophy together.



What's Next?

The German Consortium, an exciting initiative spearheaded by Associate Provost and Professor of German Raymond Burt, is creating breakthroughs in second language educational delivery with learning expectations that include both language acquisition and cultural education.

German Studies and German language course content is taught at progressively higher levels of intensity in traditional classrooms and via live-video link to classrooms at other UNC system universities. Assessments demonstrate that this approach is attaining the same level of language proficiency, or higher, as that achieved by students in more traditional language classroom settings.

Digital technology allows one professor to simultaneously instruct students at three or more other university locations. Currently, instruction is allotted among faculty and students from UNCW, Western Carolina, NCSU, UNC-Greensboro and East Carolina University campuses. In times of tight budgets, collaborative use of technology and resources will be essential to enable UNC system universities to diversify foreign languages and literatures curricula. These shared resources have permitted UNCW to add a German major. Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, UNCW students will be able to enroll in Arabic and Chinese classes.

Voices That Still Speak

Classical studies courses are supported by the Departments of Foreign Languages and Literatures, English, Philosophy and Religion, and Art and Art History. "The classics and indeed all the disciplines that make up the humanities are by their very nature interdisciplinary," says Andrea Deagon, associate professor of classics, whose specialty is classical mythology.

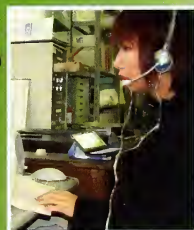
Classical mythology is one of the most popular courses in the program. "The story patterns of Greek,



Roman and Norse myths still operate in our modern culture from short stories, books and films to video games," Deagon says. "Classical languages and cultures are among the most diverse and different; because, while very alive on some levels, they are, at the same time, past. For example, the Romans—their culture was transformed out of existence. There is wisdom as well as lessons to be learned from that story."

The Far East: Teaching Japanese

Through a virtual pen-pal system, Yoko Kano, lecturer in Japanese, promotes linguistic and cultural understanding among Japanese and American students. Emphasis is on the achievement of an active command of the language, aural-oral practice and intensive study of the basic pattern of spoken Japanese. During the third semester of study, reading, writing and basic conversation are facilitated through a collaborative, international peer review process. Japanese students at Mie University send their English essays to UNCW students using a digital bulletin board. UNCW students send their essays, in Japanese, to Mie University. After students correct each other's work, the compositions are evaluated by their instructors. "Students develop friendships with their Japanese peers during these exercises that stretch their language acquisition," Kano says. Peer reviews, collaborative Web sites, shared PowerPoint presentations and live videoconferencing are ways to practice Japanese with native students without ever leaving campus.



SPN 498: Crossing cultural boundaries to learn and serve

To support her students' acquisition of Spanish language, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures Chair Denise DiPuccio supervises innovative, cross-cultural learning opportunities with agencies and schools serving Spanish-speaking populations in both Pender and New Hanover counties.

Amigos Internationals' Centro Latino, a resource and activity center in Wilmington, is a place where connections and exchanges are quickly made, a quality that emanates from Director Lucy Vasquez, who considers every visitor her guest. Social service providers aid clients and clients reciprocate. "They always give back; tons of tamales have come through our door," Vasquez says.

Centro Latino has a caseload of approximately 4,000 per year and is still growing.

Case-by-case aid can mean interpretation or translation of documents, help finding a job or an apartment, or negotiating federal and local agency systems, immigration law or American culture and customs.

UNCW's Jennifer Tinnin '06 came to Centro Latino as a student intern, and after finishing her internship, was hired full-time as services coordinator. Like all interns, Jennifer began her service by answering the telephone. Taking calls at a Spanish-speaking agency is a daunting assignment. The student must understand the nature and extent of the problem, the circumstances and necessities that must be addressed, without benefit of eye contact or body language. Then, placing the situation into the native-speaker's cultural and social context, decide how to reply — in Spanish.

Serving at Centro Latino requires the use of all four language skills: writing, speaking, listening and reading, in a real-world setting that serves as a living language lab. The bonus is that students acquire a deeper appreciation for the challenges that Latinos, who have come to southeastern North Carolina to find a better life, are facing. The experience forged Jennifer's future.

"I have been able to do two things I love here," Jennifer said.

"I love to speak Spanish, and I love to make a difference. I am inspired everyday. I plan to pursue a graduate degree in social work."

Jennifer Tinnin '06



UNCW / JAMIE MONCRIEF



Companion Xianglin Wang and Yixin Chen at 16

*In the space
between two worlds Yixin Chen
gleans lessons for the future*

A CONVERSATION WITH UNCW ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

YIXIN CHEN AS TOLD TO KIM PROUKOM

PHOTOS BY YIXIN CHEN

At that instant the glint of the vigilant Communist reappeared in the headman's eyes, and his voice turned hostile. "What is the name of that song of yours? I'm asking you what it is called!"

"Mozart..." I muttered.

"Mozart Is Thinking of Chairman Mao," Luo broke in.

As if he had heard something miraculous, the headman's menacing look softened. He cnkled up his eyes in a wide, beatific smile. "Mozart thinks of Mao all the time," he said.

"Indeed, all the time," agreed Luo.

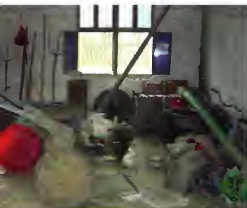
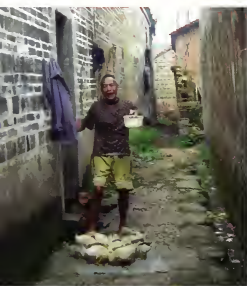
This was our first taste of re-education. Luo was eighteen years old; I was seventeen. The universities were closed... and all the young intellectuals were sent to the countryside to be re-educated by the peasants... The real reason was unclear... At the time, Luo and I often discussed it in secret like a pair of conspirators. We decided it all came down to Mao's hatred of intellectuals...

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress, a novel by Dai Sijie

In 1970, at age 16, UNCW Professor Yixin Chen was one of 17 million young intellectuals "sent down" from the city where he had lived with his parents to be "re-educated" by the peasants of Laoqu (pronouncing *lau chu*). As Chen explained,

"Mao believed that urban youths in schools had long been educated by bourgeois ideas and needed to reform their minds under the guidance of a social class whose communist consciousness he trusted."

"MY EXPERIENCE AT LAOQU LEFT ME WITH THE RESOLVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE PEASANTS COULD BE ADDRESSED AND THE BURDEN OF THEIR LIVES LIFTED."



"Year after year, I felt the frustration of the poverty and contended with the extreme, poor living conditions. There was no electricity, running water or medical services. There were no houses built of bricks and cement, only mud or thatch. There was no news from the outside world, except for the government newspaper, which was delivered to Laoqu by a postman every five days."

The peasants worked 10 hours each day in the fields for a daily income of 35 cents – roughly 50 U.S. dollars a year – after the subtraction of a food quota, which, according to Chen, "was roughly 500 pounds of unprocessed grain a year and never satisfied the stomach." Meat was eaten rarely. Livestock was needed as exchange for kerosene, clothes, soap, or pencils and notebooks for the children. "My experience at Laoqu left me with the resolve to understand how the living standards of the peasants could be addressed and the burden of their lives lifted."

In 30 years, little has changed for the peasants as social and economic disparities between city dwellers and their counterparts in the Chinese countryside continually widen, but neither have the years diminished Chen's resolve to bring sound historical perspectives to bear in the analysis of these problems. "I sought to understand and learn what policies would work for Chinese agriculture."

In 1977, when China resumed university entrance examinations abolished by Mao during the Cultural Revolution, Chen was able to continue his education. Completing graduate studies at Nanjing University, he was hired there as an assistant professor. At Nanjing, he met William C. Kirby, now Geisinger Professor of History at Harvard University and director of the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, who, at the time, was a visiting professor from Washington University in St. Louis. Kirby encouraged Chen to come to the United States to complete a doctoral dissertation under his direction at Washington.

"My study of the rural cooperative movement, first introduced to China as an agricultural credit system by American missionaries in the early 1920s, made me aware that, rather than a failure, the Nationalist policy was an unfinished practice." In fact, Chen believes that the rural cooperative was one of many promising programs that the Nationalists adopted but which time, war and civil strife forestalled.

"Although results were limited, the financial assistance that the missionary-inspired Nationalist cooperatives extended to the peasants in the 1930s did help them. Unfortunately, the Japanese invasion in 1937 wiped out all the cooperatives in North and South China confounding the emerging results of Nationalist policies, of which the rural cooperatives were only one."

The Nationalist strategy of using technology in the broad sense, credit at lower terms for the peasant farmers, agricultural extension services, better seeds, livestock, fertilizers, etc., would have required government support and policy because the agricultural sector, by itself, could not sustain the necessary investments. The Communists, all too willing to appropriate the power of the state, used this power to convert the social structure rather than to directly address the economic problems – precipitating the Great Leap Forward Famine.

"The revolution altered the social structure by destroying the landlord class in order to redistribute their property and put an end to tenant-farming, a practice that obligated 45 percent of the rural households to pay half of their annual harvest to landlords in the common crop-share rent system. But, redistribution never changed the core problem: the tension between man and land," Chen says.

Regarded as a major scholar in his native China and recognized internationally as an authority on the agricultural policies of the Nationalist Chinese government prior to the Communist revolution, Chen is considered one of the most important revisionist writers in the field. In addition to his teaching and research activities at UNC Wilmington, both UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University employ him as an adjunct lecturer. Chen has helped many UNCW faculty members and students to make trips to China where he is completing oral histories and field interviews documenting peasant recollections of the Great Leap Forward Famine.

"Realizing that villages have few written records and most of the Great Leap generation is passing away, I have visited over 20 villages in two Chinese provinces interviewing the peasants and collecting oral histories that have resulted in two recent articles."



Chen points out that while today's China is emerging as an economic powerhouse, it remains an agricultural country where rural residents make up 62 percent of its 1.3 billion people. "Grain imports continue because 80 percent of all agricultural production is needed for the farmers' own consumption. In the U.S., 3 million farmers produce for 300 million people with a great surplus of products. While in China, 300 million peasants manually labor in fields on smaller-sized farms than the farms of the 1920s."

"Profoundly," he concludes, "the Chinese state needs to creatively re-conceptualize agriculture in light of its high population-to-land ratios, shifting emphasis away from traditional grain production to a broader notion of wider participation in a comprehensive food system that includes storage, processing, transportation, marketing and trading of cotton, vegetables, meat, and various kinds of food; an approach that would allow Chinese agriculture to modernize and permit the peasants to greatly improve their living standards."



Top left: Chen interviews a peasant at Huacun, a village in central China. Top right: Here in Shimen, a village founded in the mid-Tang dynasty, 7th century, a former "model" peasant in the 1950s stands with his nephew. Middle left: In Dongyu, a village founded in the early Ming Dynasty, elderly peasants work in these fields for self-support as young people leave for the cities. China has no social security system for rural people. Middle right: Fangkeng, located in the mountains in Eastern China. Founded in the Song Dynasty, 11th century, and set in a naturally beautiful environment with stone quarries for construction needs, Fangkeng is relatively better off than most villages. Bottom left: A woman and her niece tend to their rice fields in Huacun. Bottom right: A peasant in Dongyu tries to dry newly harvested wheat on his rooftop.



At the Crossroads of the Life of the Mind . . .

UNC Wilmington's William Madison Randall Library travels many avenues of inquiry; its librarians wear many hats in order to meet a complex range of service demands. The literal hub of any campus, the library is a meeting place for students and scholars, providing study space, research assistance and all means of technological inquiry. It is the laboratory for the humanities, the repository of faculty scholarship—the place where research, teaching and learning come together.



Life in the library is never dull. University Librarian Sherman Hayes uses the many-hats analogy to explain that the world's knowledge comes in many forms.

"The intellectual journey runs through the library," says University Librarian Sherman Hayes. "We are in the middle of what everybody else is doing. We don't determine anything, but we facilitate everything."

Randall Library's collections bring academic disciplines and culture together: musical recordings, including a collection of elevator music from the 1950s; beautiful art renderings from anatomy collections; worship objects; exhibits; artifacts; surveys; public history displays and, of course, books, magazines and journals — the list is a documentary of human experience in the world.

"What we do is provide teaching moments in spaces for intellectual investigation," Hayes explains. The library offers study spaces, portable laptop comput-

ers to check out for use in the library, camcorders for videotaping, group study rooms for collaboration, computer labs, audio-visual rooms, a coffee shop, videoconferencing and instructional services.

Technology is a new avenue of information exploration that places its own demands on library users. "Librarians were early adopters of technology, so we are in the forefront of the wave of continuous improvements in the availability and accessibility of information sharing techniques," says Sue Ann Cody, associate university librarian for public services. "Librarians spend much of their time monitoring technological developments and teaching people in classes and individually how to search and evaluate the information that technology puts at our fingertips."



“Information seeking has never been as convenient as it is today, but finding the best information efficiently is a complex, changing process.” — Sue Cody

WILLIAM MADISON RANDALL LIBRARY

Randall Librarians Teach, Publish and Present

The library supplements and supports the classroom. Always open long hours to assist students, the library remains open 24 hours a day for the final 15 days leading up to exams.

- Last year 8,890 students and faculty received instructional services from librarians at Randall Library.
- Librarians teach freshman seminar courses and introductory honors courses as well as provide one-on-one instruction to students in research methods.
- Primary contact librarians meet and collaborate each year with new faculty members to acquaint them with library services and to evaluate how the library can support them. This fall, over 60 new faculty members' research and teaching was supported in this way.
- Primary contact librarians work one-on-one with graduate students, teaching research methods through the Student Thesis Assistance @ Randall (STAR) program: <http://library.uncw.edu/web/research/star.html>.

Library faculty also present at national and international professional meetings, seminars, conferences and poster sessions, and many have published in such leading library journals as *Library Quarterly*, *Science & Technology Libraries*, *Library Instruction Round Table News*, *Information Management Journal*, *Technical Services Quarterly* and *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

The modern, interconnected world has brought many innovations to the university library, yet much remains familiar. The library is still a great place to visit, meet and study – now with coffee bar! Librarians are ready to help students find what they need for professors who still require original research and papers, and it is still difficult to decide what information to use! As Hayes says, “Whatever changes come, the need for a great library resource always continues.”



A trained, credentialed professional, Associate Librarian Sue Cody dons many hats to find the answers library users need. Here she holds her Harley-Davidson motorcycle helmet – a “hat” Cody occasionally wears to ride to work. Librarians are very interesting people, with a wide variety of interests and skills.

**For more information
about UNCW's Randall Library,
visit <http://library.uncw.edu>.**



Unique and rare materials that require security, preservation and special care are housed in Special Collections – from a collection of 1" x 2" minibooks to letters from Benjamin Franklin and Robert E. Lee. Jerry Parnell supervises Special Collections. University archives house an extensive historic record of Southeastern North Carolina as well as the history of UNCW and the publications of its faculty, managed by archivist Adina Riggins.

OUTSIDE THE BOX

GRADUATE LIBERAL STUDIES, DIRECTED BY HERB BERG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION, IS A PROGRAM OF STUDY THAT EMPHASIZES THE PERSONAL QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE.

"The Graduate Liberal Studies program has been the most wonderful and inspirational academic journey I have ever taken. The courses are remarkably diverse as are the students, which only enhances the enjoyment of learning. The professors are extremely passionate about their work and truly care about the student. I will cherish the friendships I have made in the program and will miss being in class with them once I graduate."

— Sheilia Griffis '04

BY KIM PROUKOU

"I truly believe that I have had the greatest and most profound educational experience of my life at UNCW in the Graduate Liberal Studies program. I love the breadth of the program and its informing philosophy of 'making connections' and thinking outside the box."

— Carlton Robbins '04

Graduate Liberal Studies courses deepen students' understanding of the social, scientific and humanistic dimensions of today's world that require a broader interdisciplinary perspective. Not intended to apply specifically to a career or vocation, the program promotes the principles of traditional classical education and the values of a broad liberal arts education.

GLS faculty encourage students to follow their intellectual curiosity and to continue learning over their lifetime. Students are given the opportunity to design a personalized program of interdisciplinary graduate study and to select courses that will expand their interests, deepen their understanding of themselves, their society and environment.

Since its inception in the fall of 1999, the program has dramatically surpassed projected enrollment figures. Current students bring career and disciplinary backgrounds from fields as diverse as the ministry, film, education, nursing, art therapy, business, advertising and medicine. An extension program for Graduate Liberal Studies in Onslow County, North Carolina at Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, N.C. was added for fall 2004 and in 2005, a post-Masters certificate program.

The College of Arts and Sciences' and the GLS program's 30-credit plan requires a 3-credit final essay or project appropriate to the student's area of concentration, proposed and completed under advisement of GLS faculty. The final project may take the form of an original creative work, an exhibition or performance, an organizational change project or an applied project. All final projects require a written component. Recent final projects include: "The Unex-

The first 2005 End of Life Conference, "Let's Talk About It" drew more than 80 people. More than 100 people attended the sequel, "It's About How You LIVE," in 2006. Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter offered abridged sessions in Brunswick and Columbus counties in the summer of 2006.

Barbie Cowan '05



The third conference was held on the campus of UNCW Feb. 24, 2007 and addressed end-of-life care for people with Alzheimer's and dementia, targeting professional and family caregivers. According to Community Outreach Manager Jason Clamme, Hospice plans to offer another summer conference in Columbus and Brunswick counties with a possibility of adding Pender County. "The Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter thanks Barbie Cowan for her vision from the beginning and for her willingness to keep helping each year."

— Jason Clamme

pected Hero: An Oral History of Vietnam Veterans"; "The Poisoning of a Community: Environmental Racism and Warrenton, North Carolina"; "The Americanization of Hinduism and Buddhism"; a teaching memoir titled "Unbecoming a Teacher"; an original comic drama "Gimme Some Sugar"; and a play, "The Golden Harp," based on a Welsh folktale.

Instructors who have taught in the GLS program are enthusiastic. Pat Lerch, Chair of the Anthropology Program says, "There is absolutely no other teaching experience in my twenty-five years of college teaching that equals that of GLS in the level of excitement, thirst for knowledge and curiosity brought by the students in the seminars." Rodney Hagley, Biology and Marine Biology Department faculty member, recently recognized by the American Society for Microbiology, says "In sixteen years teaching science education, I have rarely seen the level of enthusiasm, commitment and interest in learning that I have observed in Graduate Liberal Studies students here at UNCW. I largely attribute this to the multidisciplinary approach espoused by the program and the level of academic curiosity, maturity and life experience of students who choose to pursue the degree."

A Final Project that Continues to Make a Difference

The study, *Dying to Know: Breaking the Cycle of Fear through Hospice*, was published as a final project by GLS graduate Barbie Cowan in 2005. Cowan, special projects coordinator for the Chancellor's Office, is a UNCW staff member whose study illuminated a subject most of us wish to keep in the dark: death and dying. In the study, Cowan notes the irony of the popularity of television programs that



PHOTOS BY JASON CLAMME

graphically depict death, even actual autopsies, while most people continue to find their own or a loved one's death a subject too difficult to talk about. To break the silence, Cowan produced her study but went beyond it to organize and publicize a community-wide end-of-life conference. She was also able to secure a WHQR radio interview to talk about hospice services and end-of-life care. Cowan's final project, including public radio interview, is exemplary of how the Graduate Liberal Studies program promotes research, study and purposeful dialogue that crosses disciplines to learn and serve.

The Indomitable Spirit of Africa

BY KIM PROUKOU
PHOTOS BY AMY KIRSCHKE



"Race is at the center of all my courses," says art historian Amy Kirschke, "the history of race relations, study of prejudice and discrimination and how artists deal with these issues. We also discuss the responsibility of the artist: for example, does an African American artist have a responsibility to create 'racial' art? I have found that students do not necessarily divide along racial lines in these discussions, which is in itself an important lesson for them to learn."

Associate Professor
Amy H. Kirschke



In summer 2006, Kirschke traveled to Africa to work with graduate students at the Senegalese French-speaking Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar. "Students were anxious to learn about our students and how we see issues of race in our country. While in Senegal, I attended the African Biennial Exhibition, an exhibition of artists from all over sub-Saharan Africa. The art was compelling, much of it political in nature, addressing issues of health care needs, AIDS, political unrest and corruption."

Kirschke also visited art exhibitions held all over Dakar. Artists exhibited in the outdoor spaces on the Island of

Gorée, where Kirschke took pictures of the slave fort, holding pens and "rooms of no return," where captives waited to be shipped from Senegal and Gorée Island to slave markets in the Caribbean.

"So much of the art we look at is politically charged and very provocative," says Kirschke. "Even the most shy and quiet student inevitably has something to say about the works we study."

Teaching On and Off Campus

"Rich in resources for teaching, I utilize the City of Wilmington, teaching classes at slave-constructed architectural sites in Wilmington. The history of these sites is largely unknown to my students," Kirschke says. "At the African American cemetery in town and at Poplar Grove Plantation, we discuss how the sites deal with a complex history that might be interpreted differently by African Americans than by whites." Her students regularly use the Cameron Art Museum, including the 19th century collection and the African American art collection.

Research

Kirschke's first book, Aaron Douglas: *Art, Race and the Harlem Renaissance*, was published in 1995 by University Press of Mississippi, as part of the Harlem Renaissance/African American Culture Division. Douglas, the first African American artist to turn to African imagery as a tool to teach history and racial pride, was highly educated, a gifted artist and articulate writer. Douglas' letters, discovered the year that Kirschke began her project, gave her unique insight into the racism, patronage and politics of the early 20th century as he experienced it. The hard cover edition of Kirschke's book sold out, and the soft back is in its second printing.

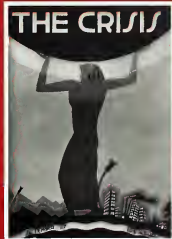
Her second book, *Art in CRISIS: WEB. Du Bois and the Struggle for African American Identity and Memory*, was published by Indiana University Press, January 2007. Kirschke examines Du Bois' interest in the visual arts developed during his years as editor of *Crisis* magazine, beginning in 1910. The visuals include political cartoons, drawings and photographs of the horrors of lynching, about which Du Bois repeatedly wrote. "Nothing has ever been written on the visuals

used by Du Bois in *Crisis* magazine," Kirschke says. "Imagery in *Crisis* included war, racism, education, women's issues and labor. Du Bois considered the truth beautiful, immanently political and public, but he knew that words weren't enough."

Kirschke is preparing to return to Africa this summer on a Cahill Grant. Her proposal, "Ghana: The Artist and Independence," will research contemporary artists and the visual arts tradition in Ghana; how Ghanaian artists commemorate the past, visualize the present and portray the future at the time of Ghana's 50th anniversary of independence, commencing March 2007. With support from outside granting sources, Kirschke hopes to develop a research project that will permit UNCW students to travel to Ghana to conduct interviews as well as work on the project on campus. "I want to record the voices of the artists who use their art to express the realities of their lives, revealing currently undocumented contemporary art of Ghana," Kirschke says.



These iron shackles still remain in a slave castle on the island of Gorée off the coast of Senegal. There are several structures still standing where slaves were held and exported across the Atlantic. Although the area known today as Ghana was a much more active slave exportation site, Gorée, the western most point in Africa, was also used by slavers.



Art in Crisis

W.E.B. Du Bois and the Struggle for African American Identity and Memory

Amy Kirschke

Book Launch

Amy Kirschke was invited to present her research at the Sorbonne, University of Paris, on March 8, 2007. The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars sponsored a book launch to celebrate the publication of *Art in Crisis* on March 28, 2007, in Washington D.C. The event was co-sponsored by the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian's African American Culture Museum, Howard University, the University of Maryland and the Wilson Center. A scholarly panel discussion followed and Kirschke was interviewed on the national TV and radio program "Dialogue." "Dialogue" is available to television stations via PBS satellite service and cable. Kirschke's program will also be broadcast to 150 public radio stations as well as abroad through National Public Radio (NPR) Worldwide. A CD of the discussion panel and interview will be made available in 42 college libraries across the country.

'Babbadalgaharaghat
akamminnarronnkon
nbronntonnerronnntu
onnthunntrouvarrhou
nawnskswntoohooq
hooordenenthurnuk!'

'Babbadalgaharaghatakamminnarronnkonbronntonner-
ronntuonnnthunntrouvarrhounawnskswntoohooohoor-
denenthurnuk!' I've seen the word a hundred times.
Right there, on the first page of *Finnegans Wake* by
James Joyce. Still, I had no idea what the word meant
when I stepped off the plane in Dublin. What I did know
was that I was in a foreign country, lost and confused...
Bloomsday is marked all over the world, but the most
extravagant event is the weeklong celebration in
Joyce's hometown, Dublin...I was able to attend...By 9
a.m. streets were shoulder to shoulder with people in
Edwardian dress who had come from around the world
to enjoy the reenactments, comedy acts and, of course,
bottomless flagons from its sponsor, Guinness...While I
had, I thought, done extensive research before I left, I
somehow missed the fact that it rains every single day
in Ireland...I managed to stay dry once - in the Cobalt
Café...What wasn't ordinary was the incredible reenact-
ment of the ending of the Anna Livia Plurabella chapter
of *Finnegans Wake*...How anyone could remember and
recite ten pages...is beyond me. The best tour was a trip
to Sandymount Strand, where Joyce lived...Watching
the gulls dive into what Joyce called the "snotgreen
sea" made it easy to see why the author was inspired
to search for the perfect words to create his poetic
language. And the celebration of Bloomsday made it
easy to see how appreciated and loved Joyce really is...
Oh, yes. And the 'Bababadalgharagh...' I knew what it
was before I got back on the plane. It is the sound of a
waterfall of the River Liffey.

— David Cagel '03

The Wentworth Travel Fellowships

BY KIM PROUKOU

David Cagle received a Michael D. Wentworth Travel Fellowship to Dublin, Ireland, in the summer of 2002 to attend the annual Bloomsday festivities. All over the world, James Joyce fans commemorate the name of protagonist Leopold Bloom in Joyce's famous novel *Ulysses* and Bloom's migration through Dublin on an ordinary June 16, 1904. Cagle's essay, first published in the UNCW English Department's newsletter *Tidelines*, captures the moment the Wentworth Travel Fellowship was created to provide: a powerful experience that opens an entire new world of meaning in a literary work.



The inspiration for
Green's fellowship:
Michael Wentworth

Wentworth Travel Fellowships are made possible through the generosity of Charles F. Green III '71. UNCW students, with majors or minors in English, travel to places where famous authors lived or wrote or where literary classics were set. Students have traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, the setting for Fyodor Dostoyevsky's novel, *Crime and Punishment*; to Emily Bronte's England to walk the moors; to the Greek island of Lesbos, the birthplace of the ancient lyric poet Sappho, where Aristotle and Epicurus lived and where Terpander invented the seven-note scale for the lyre.

Students are required to keep a journal and to deliver a presentation in the semester following their return. Green makes every attempt to attend the presentations. "Students have sent postcards and letters, saying 'thank you.' I know how hard they work to earn these fellowships and the hard work they do in constructing their presentations," Green says.

This fellowship opportunity was named for Professor Michael D. Wentworth, whose love for literature, creativity and teaching inspired Green. To be considered for a fellowship, students majoring or minor-ing in English must complete an application with a proposed itinerary and detailed budget and obtain a faculty recommendation.



Charles F. Green III annually enables the Departments of English, Creative Writing and History to offer scholarships, fellowships, lectures and programs of quality for students as well as public programs for the community.

2006 Wentworth Scholarships Awarded

Erin Burke Shakespeare's London
Wendy Chilcote Jane Austen's London
Kimberly Friddle Arthur Miller's Salem, Mass.
Leslie Ann Frohnapple Confucious' China
Amber Grogan Arthur Miller's Salem, Mass.
Kianoosh Hashemzaden Iran and the Function of Place
Taylor Parson Kafka's Prague
Brandon Phillips Family and Culture in Italy

Inspired by the book *Under the Tuscan Sun* by Frances Mayes, Brandon Phillips '07 (left) traveled with Professor Barbara Waxman and Waxman's students to Tuscany, Italy. In the popular book, Mayes writes of the simple pleasures of Italian living, of her efforts to restore an old Tuscan farmhouse and of the celebrations of good friends and food that fashion the colors and rhythms of Tuscan life to this day.

Students like Brandon are grateful, "I owe my memories of Tuscany to Mr. Green. His generosity allowed me to do something I had never done before – to think in terms of other cultures, to build new interpretations and ideas about the world, what it looks like and the people in it. Without his help, I would be landlocked, mentally, spiritually and geographically."



"From the Leaning Tower to the Tuscan hills, the town of Cortona where Mayes lived, all were memorable parts of our spring trip in Tuscany."

— Professor Barbara Waxman

Kaleidoscope

Creative Writing Students and Faculty Actively Publish

Recently, ten Creative Writing MFA students or alumni have had works published or accepted by major publishers. These successes include Dana Sachs, *If You Lived Here*; Brad Land, *Pilgrims Upon the Earth*; Nina de Gramont, *Gossip of the Starlings*; Derek Nikitas, *Pyres*; Eli Hastings, *Falling Room*; Catherine McCall, *Lifeguarding: A Memoir of Secrets, Swimming and the South*; Cynthia Ramsey, *The Boys of the Battleship North Carolina*; Kirsten Holmstedt, *Band of Sisters: American Women at War in Iraq*; Robert Lurie, *No Certainty Attached*; Anne Russell, *Life and Times of the Fort Fisher Hermit*,

Through the Lens of Fred Pickler; and Anne Barnhill, *At Home In the Land of Oz*.

Department faculty published six books, including Rebecca Lee's first novel, *The City Is a Rising Tide*, and Clyde Edgerton's first nonfiction work, *Solo*. Both were reviewed in *The New York Times* and other national publications. Assistant Professor of Creative Writing Malena Mörling's book of poetry, *Astoria*, was also favorably reviewed in *The New York Times*.



Art Gallery Opens with Student Exhibition

The Cultural Arts Building gallery opened on Nov. 30, 2006 with a solo exhibit by student artist Jessica Phillips '06, this academic year's recipient of the Ann Block Boseman Art Scholarship. "I find inspiration in the works of potters Shoji Hamada, Phil Rogers, Elsbeth S. Woody and Mark Hewitt," Phillips says. "Ultimately the greatest satisfaction I get from my finished work is through others enjoyment of it."



The Book as Art: Emily Smith's '06 design for her book of original poems, created in the Pub Lab.

Scene First

The first national film festival exclusively for student filmmakers, Scene First



Buttino and Capra

Student Film Festival, will be held in Wilmington, N.C. June 14-16, 2007. UNCW's Department of Film Studies and Screen Gems Studio are co-sponsors. Frank Capra Jr. will serve as honorary chair. Lou Buttino, chair of film studies says, "This is a wonderful opportunity for promising young filmmakers to showcase their talents."

The 3-day film competition will provide student filmmakers with an opportunity to showcase their films, network with industry professionals, and learn from academic and industry leaders.

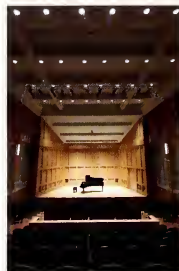
Recital Hall Resounds with Praise

In the new Cultural Arts Building, the Department of Music has hosted events ranging from student and guest artist recitals to multi-media presentations, film presentations, chamber

ensembles, and jazz and choral performances.

"It's really amazing that in only a few short months, our students have already been exposed to such a wide range of world-class musicians," Chair of the Music Department Frank Bongiorno says.

For a calendar of events, visit the department Web site www.uncw.edu/music.



UNCW Theatre Productions Light Up Mainstage

Tom Stoppard's *15 Minute Hamlet*, directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Tom Glynn, kicked off the Cultural Arts Building's Grand Opening Jan. 26 and 27, as this short version of Shakespeare's tale of life, death and love revealed its hilarious juxtapositions.

On Feb. 22 - 25, audiences delighted to see Noel Coward's play *Fallen Angels* directed by award-winning director for film and stage Renée Vincent. Amateur rights to produce this 1928 version of *Desperate Housewives* have been withdrawn in the U.S., but Paul Castagno, director of the Theatre Program, was able to secure rights in Great Britain, through the Coward estate. "We are pleased," Castagno says, "because when a title is restricted, it is often impossible to secure the rights to produce it."

Running March 22-26 and directed by Professor of Theatre Terry Theodore, Film Studies Chair Lou Buttino's original play *In the Womb of the Moon* explored an immigrant Italian family as it adjusts to shifting cultural mores and expectations across three generations. April 26 - 29, *Fuddy Meers*, David Lind-say-Abaire's contemporary



**Burt**

comedy, closes theater's first season. UNCW alumnus Ed Wagenseller directs. For more information, contact 910.962.2061 or visit www.uncw.edu/thr.

Burt Named Chair of Foreign Languages and Literatures

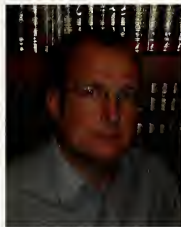
Raymond Burt, associate provost in the Division of Academic Affairs, will be the new chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, beginning July 1, 2007.

Since 2003, Burt has served in the Office of Academic Affairs exercising a leadership role in the oversight of faculty issues, academic policy, the Honors Scholars Program, the Community of Scholars, as well as Summer School and the planning for the Isaac Bear Early College High School.

"I am very pleased about returning to the Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, my intellectual home," Burt says.

Graduate Liberal Studies Announces Changes

The Graduate Liberal Studies program has a new director, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion Herbert Berg. Founding director of the program, Professor of English Michael Wentworth, stepped down this fall to return to the English De-

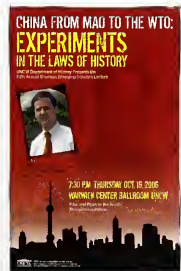
**Berg**

partment. Berg contributed significantly to the development of the program and to its advancement, having served with Wentworth as associate director since 2003 and teaching in the program since 2000.

"The special quality of the GLS program is the commitment, enthusiasm, and intellectual engagement of the students it enrolls," Berg says. "I was hooked on the program after the first class I taught."

History Welcomes Junior Scholar Cook

The History Department welcomed Alex Cook, Ph.D. candidate at Columbia University, as its fifth annual Sherman Emerging Scholar. Cook met with graduate and undergraduate students and presented his public address entitled "Experiments in the Laws of History: China from Mao to the W.T.O." to more than 300 people. Cook argued that China's Communist leadership has not abandoned its Marxist understanding of history.

**Wentworth**

One of the university's most popular scholarly events, the Sherman Lecture, endowed in honor of Virginia and Derrick Sherman, provides a forum for outstanding junior researchers to share their expertise at UNC Wilmington.

Top History Graduate Students Gain Acceptance at Leading Universities

History Graduate Coordinator David La Vere announces that graduate student Michael Robinson has been accepted by history Ph.D. programs at Louisiana State University, Purdue University and the University of Tennessee. Doug Krehbiel was accepted by history Ph.D. programs at SUNY Buffalo and American University, and Scott King-Owen has been accepted by history Ph.D. programs at University of Missouri and Ohio State University.

Nationally Acclaimed Professor to Lecture on Religion

John Dominic Crossan, Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies at DePaul University and currently Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Central Florida is the 2006-07 B. Frank Hall speaker. The free lecture, "St. Paul and the Roman Empire," held March 29 in Kenan Auditorium was sponsored by

the Philosophy and Religion Department.

Crossan has written twenty books on the historical Jesus in the last 30 years, four of which have become national religious bestsellers.

His most recent book, *God & Empire: Jesus against Rome, Then and Now*, released March 13, asks,



"Have those who resort to violence as a means of change succeeded in their quest for empire? Or

has nonviolence been more effective in bringing about lasting change?"

Gould Leads English Forward

A strong advocate for his large faculty and staff, Christopher Gould encourages active faculty research, as evidenced by the quality and intellectual diversity of their contributions.

**Gould**

English faculty are producing notable texts. Nine college textbooks have been either authored or co-authored by UNCW English Department faculty, several in multiple editions. Richard Veit and Gould's *Writing, Reading,*

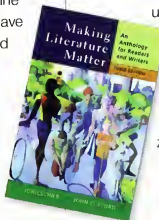
and Research is now in its 7th ed., and the most recent textbook by John Schilb and UNCW Professor John Clifford, *Making Literature Matter*, is attracting national attention.

Janet Ellerby's book, *Intimate Reading*, studies the contemporary memoir, analyzing memoirs by American women that share a common purpose: the disclosure of secrets.

Faculty research interests span local to international issues and emphasize diversity. Betsy Ervin's classes research local history; Barbara Waxman examines stereotypes of aging in literary characters; Lee Schweninger: Native American literatures; Mark Boren: echoes of the 18th century sugar trade that remain with us still; Keith Newlin: *American Naturalism*; Cara Cilano: non-U.S. and non-British English language literatures, from the Indian subcontinent.

The popular Professional Writing Program, established in 2001, is among the largest in the United States. Coordinated by Colleen Reilly, the program offers a track within the English major and a certificate program, enabling students of any major to improve their writing skills, develop strategies for using writing and communication technologies effectively and understand

how excellent writing functions as social action within organizations.



Environmental Studies: Leader in Providing Experiential Learning

Employers and graduate schools have indicated a preference for applicants who have practical experience. Yet many institutions find practicum/internship programs labor-intensive and difficult to establish. Jack Hall, chair of the Environmental Studies Department, and Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Attorney Robert Cutting recently submitted a paper based on the success of the EVS internship/practicum program at UNC Wilmington. The paper, "Requirements for a Workable Intern/Practicum Program in the Environmental Sciences: Experience for Careers & Grad School" is a how-to manual for building field experience into curricula.

Cutting, the director of the intern/practicum program, says, "What employers and graduate schools want are graduates with demonstrated ability in the field." Cutting and Hall have discovered that students want these learning opportunities, too. According to Hall, "Our numbers of majors have increased because of the interest students have demonstrated in internships and practica."

The winning UNCW formula: collaborate with campus career services; nurture and sustain good relationships with potential placement agencies; encourage participation and measure success – reward with grades and credit – a Pass/Fail does not adequately measure the value of real work experience; use technology including teleconferences, free internet telephone and videophone services to assist students in sustaining communication with agencies and supervisors; use real-world, outcome-based assessments such as performance-based evaluations; seek broadly based opportunities, including international opportunities.



Kresge Greenhouse Refurbished

To promote easier accessibility and use for community educational outreach programs, the **Biology and Marine Biology Department** recently refurbished the Kresge Greenhouse. The greenhouse offers a hands-on environment for teaching and research. Local botanical groups benefit by developing exchanges and using the resource. The greenhouse maintains a diverse collection of botanical specimens, including many exotic flowers and fauna.



Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Expands Program

Pending approval by the UNC Wilmington Graduate Council, the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry will offer an American Chemical Society (ACS) certified Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science degree in Chemistry in a five-year program of study. Currently the department offers undergraduate Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science ACS-certified degrees and a Master of Science degree. Students who complete required coursework through the first semester of the junior year with a minimum GPA of 3.5 will be eligible to begin graduate level

courses and to conduct research during following summer semesters. Chair of the department Jimmy Reeves is excited about the opportunities this program will create for students, "Chemistry majors with excellent backgrounds and GPAs are becoming more numerous every year. We're particularly excited about the significant research experience students in this new program will gain. A master's degree in five years will offer the best students more options for medical school and for other advanced studies."

Geography and Geology

Professor of Geology Patricia Kelley has been selected a National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) Distinguished Speaker for 2007. Kelley, the Association for Women Geoscientists' Outstanding Educator for 2003, fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Geological Society of America, and the Paleontological Society, as well as past-president of the Paleontological Society, is a specialist in mollusk

evolution. Keenly interested in teaching evolution and in the evolution/creation controversy, as a NAGT Distinguished Speaker, Kelley is delivering workshops, seminars, public lectures, and in-person consultations at colleges and universities on such topics as



Kelley

"Evolution and Creation: Conflicting or Compatible?" and "Teaching Evolution with Integrity and Sensitivity." Kelley is the administrator for the UNCW Evolution Learning Community, planning the "Darwin Year" (2009) celebration.

Liz Hines, a human geographer who studies cultural, historical landscapes and the processes by which they are created, is a board member and program chair

for the African American Heritage Foundation of Wilmington, Inc. (AAHFV). Her activities include directing educational events that celebrate African American history, foodways, graphic art, music, dance, poetry and storytelling. A primary goal of the AAHFV is the



Hines

development of an African American Museum of the Lower Cape Fear Valley located at North Fourth and Harnett Streets in Wilmington, the site of the first violence in Wilmington's 1898 conflict. Hines has contributed her expertise in cultural-historical geography. In 2006, Hines was awarded the AAHFV's President's Award for Community Service.



Computer Science Enjoys New Home

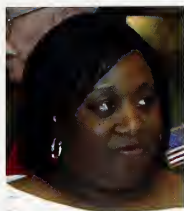
The Department of Computer Science moved into the new Computer Information Systems Building, which is jointly occupied by Information Systems and Operations Management, Cameron School of Business.

The 51,000-square-foot building has unique features such as multidisciplinary, hands-on laboratories where students can work on computer networking projects; dynamically re-configurable research and instructional spaces for faculty, graduate and Honors students and for Directed Independent Study projects, as well as smaller rooms, called "sandboxes," to facilitate team-based, collaborative learning.

The building also features a Digital Arts Lab designed to support activity at the confluence of computing and the visual arts. The lab will support a new minor in

computer science, Digital Arts, which will focus on multimedia web design and development, video production, graphics and animation, and related topics.

UNCW Math Professor Denise Terry Directs TIME



Terry

Texas Instruments (TI) is collaborating with UNCW to establish a Mathematics Education Resource Center for pre-service and classroom teachers in the region. The center, Technology Innovations for Mathematics Education or TIME, is under the direction of UNCW Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Statistics J. Denise Terry. Housed in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics with the Secondary Mathematics Education program, objectives are to

increase effective teaching and learning of mathematics with technology among regional K-12 teachers and students. The center is equipped with resources such as graphing calculators, Navigators and probe-wire provided by Texas Instruments.

What's New in the Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography

The Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography is adopting new curricular initiatives designed to prepare students with a background in physics for a career in marine science. Physics majors pursuing the B.A. and B.S. degrees will be able to select elective offerings to fulfill requirements of a marine physics track tailored to each degree option. The changes are planned to occur in spring 2008.

Trimble To Step Down July 1 – Rick Olsen, New Chair of Communication Studies

The longest-serving chair in the College of Arts and Sciences, Frank Trimble, steps down on July 1, 2007. Trimble joined UNCW in 1983 as an instructor when

the program was the Division of Speech Communication in the Department of Creative Arts.

Recognized for his ability to facilitate positive change, Trimble nurtured the holistic nature of the department, overseeing its expansive growth by focusing on the relationships, not boundaries, between specialties areas within the discipline. "It is a challenge and rare opportunity to establish a departmental identity and simultaneously construct necessary policies and procedures," Trimble says.

Olsen's UNCW experience comes full circle when he succeeds his former professor as the new chair of the department. Richard K. (Rick) Olsen received his bachelor's degree in communication studies from UNCW in 1987. Praising the rare quality of Trimble's leadership style Olsen said, "Over his 24 years at UNCW and 13 years as chair, Frank has personified servant leadership."

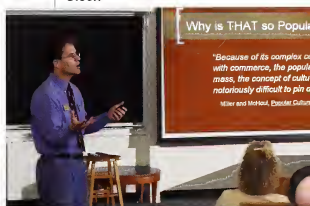
Lead professor and curriculum designer for the Camp Johnson Marine "Train the Trainers"



Trimble

program, Olsen is also known for his work with the Senior Outreach Scholars program and for receiving the Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award in 2006. Other awards include the Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLI) Outstanding Faculty Award. Olsen's research interests include the rhetorical analysis of contemporary messages, cultural phenomena and popular artifacts; he received a master's degree from Penn State and Ph.D. from Regent University.

Olsen



UNCW Anthropology Students to Excavate Cite of North American Urbanization in 1100 A.D.

From June 26 to 27, Eleanora Reber, assistant professor of anthropology, will offer a field school at the Hamill site near Dupo, Illinois, considered a probable village site inhabited by ancient Indian populations, called by archaeologists, the Emergent Mississippians, in 950-1050. Students will learn record-keeping, surface surveying, mapping, basic lab techniques, and excavation techniques such as wet-sieving and flotation: a process where dug-out soil is run through a flotation tank, permitting the heavier objects, fragments of bone and pottery, to sink and carbonized plant materials to float to the surface of the water.

The Emergent Mississippians preceded a large urban expansion in the region that resulted in the Cahokia site, north of Hamill, an urban center of about 5 square miles, with an estimated population of 15,000, in 1100 A.D. Such a large urban settlement is unprecedented in midwestern and southeastern North America. Reber says, "My interest is to study the culture and people just before this expansion, in hopes of learning why Cahokia grew so large. I am grateful to the Powell Archaeological Research Center for allowing us to excavate the site."

Participants discuss healthy eating: meal preparation, use of fresh foods and food choices at the New Hanover County Cooperative Extension — a partner with the Obesity Prevention Initiative.



Health and Applied Human Sciences

For the purpose of combating obesity, the Department of Health and Applied Human Sciences (HAHS) is managing two interdisciplinary grants totaling \$511,000 from Kate B. Reynolds and the Cape Fear Memorial Foundation. The grants were awarded to a coalition representing a revitalized Cape Fear Healthy Carolinians, which includes UNCW faculty and staff. HAHS Chair Terry Kinney serves as principal investigator and Alison Saville as project coordinator for the Obesity Prevention Initiative.

UNCW Public Sociology students, under the direction of Associate Professor of Sociology Leslie Hossfeld, coordinate community-based participatory research projects such as the community garden (left). Graduate and undergraduate students from a variety of majors work to support the initiative.

Department of Political Science: Regional Outreach

In January, the Department of Political Science kicked off another edition of the popular Great Decisions speaker series. The nationwide program, sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association, features eight distinguished international speakers on current foreign policy issues and subsequent discussion groups facilitated by political science majors. UNCW's Great Decisions program, directed by Dr. Remonda Kleinberg, involves over 500 undergraduate students with adult scholars from the community, who attend through the Division of Public Service and Continuing Studies.

In February, the Department of Political Science hosted the conference "Improving Public Policy in South-eastern North Carolina: The Feasibility of Developing a Center for Regional Engagement at UNCW." Under the direction of Dr. Milan Dluhy of the Department of Political Science and a steering committee

of UNCW faculty from various disciplines, panels of individuals from regional public policy centers across the country shared expertise with local leaders. These experts provided models for starting a center that would be focused on utilizing UNCW academic resources to better manage critical issues facing south-eastern North Carolina.

Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Launches Masters Degree

The Sociology and Criminal Justice Department will launch a Master of Arts degree in criminology and public sociology, beginning fall 2007. Students will have the option of concentrating in criminology or public sociology. UNCW's public sociology program, one of the first M.A. programs of its kind in the nation, will emphasize scholarly engagement and experiential learning.

Dr. Leslie Hossfeld, who serves as co-chair of the national American Sociological Association Task Force on Public Sociology, is co-coordi-

tor for the M.A. program. "This innovative program truly embodies the spirit of engagement and outreach that is part of the vision and mission of our university," Hossfeld says. "Students will gain the tools and skills they need to work as professionals in the social sciences, as well as becoming engaged citizens in their communities."

Hossfeld's students are currently engaged in interdisciplinary public research projects such as the Wilmington Housing Authority Community Garden Collaborative, health access for residents, and crime safety models for public housing.

Master of Social Work Student Brian Williamson Receives State Award

The North Carolina Chapter



Williamson '07M

of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) has awarded Brian Williamson '07M the 2007 Presidents' Award.

The annual award of \$1,000 is presented to a MSW student in North Carolina who has demonstrated exemplary performance in course work along with exceptional leadership skills.

The Department of Social Work is preparing Williamson to do clinical social work practice, with an emphasis on substance abuse for at-risk populations.

NASW is the largest professional social work association in the world.

Psychology Professor Receives Grant

Dale J. Cohen, Professor of Psychology, has been awarded a 5-year, \$700,000 grant by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NIH). His grant, "Quantifying stimulus, response, and numerical biases," will study how people come to understand, or misunderstand, the quantities that numbers



Cohen

represent.

Although 0.5, 1 in 2, 1/2, and 'one half' all refer to the same quantity, people's intuitive understanding of these numbers differs because of their different formats. Cohen's work will lay the foundation for a detailed understanding of the psychology of mathematical reasoning and innumeracy.

Psychology Department Chair Mark Galizio said "the grant will make it possible for graduate and undergraduate students to participate in a groundbreaking research program that offers the possibility of providing new insights into the understanding and teaching of mathematical reasoning skills."

—Kim Proukou, Joy Davis '07

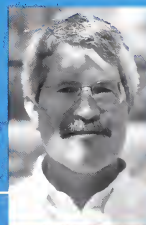


This fall, the International Theodore Dreiser Society and the Department of English, University of North Carolina Wilmington published the inaugural issue of the peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *Studies in American Naturalism*. The journal is a transformation of the former Dreiser Studies journal, which came to UNC Wilmington in 1997 when English professor Keith Newlin, a charter member of the Theodore Dreiser Society, responded to the society's call for a new editor. Newlin's interest was accepted, and the journal came to UNCW under the sponsorship of the Department of English with Newlin as co-editor.

The new *Studies in American Naturalism* meets the needs of a wider audience and expanded interest in the genre by including all writers in the American naturalist tradition — featuring works from American 19th century writers like Stephen Crane, Frank Norris and Hamlin Garland; early 20th-century writers like Dreiser, Edith Wharton, Upton Sinclair, Jack London and Sinclair Lewis; and later writers as diverse as John Dos Passos, John Steinbeck, Richard Wright and Joyce Carol Oates.

With a new editorial board of many of the most respected scholars in American literature, the rejuvenated journal complements such prestigious journals as *American Literary Realism* and *Studies in American Fiction*. More than 100 libraries are currently subscribing, and over 70 dues-paying Dreiser Society members receive it as a membership benefit. Nearly a quarter of current subscribers to *Studies in American Naturalism* live outside the United States. Newlin reports that submissions already have been received for the second volume as well as increased requests for individual subscriptions.

For this exemplary effort, the College of Arts and Sciences wishes to give Keith Newlin the last word for his contribution to national and international scholarship and the advancement of academic excellence in the promotion of literary studies — **Bravo!**





SCULPTURE BY SEYDI MAMADAY, SENEGAL

In summer 2006, Amy Kirschke, assistant professor of art and art history, traveled to Africa to work with graduate students at the Senegalese French-speaking Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar. "Students were anxious to learn about our students and how we see issues of race in our country. While in Senegal, I attended the African Biennial Exhibition, an exhibition of artists from all over sub-Saharan Africa. The art was compelling, much of it political in nature, addressing issues of health care needs, AIDS, political unrest and corruption."

YEAR
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